

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Sharnbrook Evangelical Church (Registered Charity Number 1179954)

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements of Sharnbrook Evangelical Church CIO For the year ended 31 March 2023

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name: Sharnbrook Evangelical Church. Charity Registration Number: 1179954

(Previous Charity Name: Sharnbrook Evangelical Church Charity Registration Number: 1145375)

Place of Meeting Science Centre, Sharnbrook Upper School, Odell Road, Sharnbrook MK44 1JL
Administrative Office: 14 Manor Farm Way, Sharnbrook MK44 1PH.

THE TRUSTEES

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows: Brian Bennett, John Heron, Myles MacBean (from 30/11/22) & Steve Freshwater.

Elders: Rev John Heron, Dr Myles MacBean

Deacons: Mr Brian Bennett, Mr Stephen Freshwater

Independent Examiner: Monico Tunley Limited, Louise Tunley FCA CTA DChA, 19 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK40 3JY.

New elders & deacons are elected following a period of prayer, teaching or discussion on the requirements of scripture regarding the office of an elder or deacon.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Sharnbrook Evangelical Church was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Registered Charity Number 1179954), by the Charity Commission on 17th September 2018.

Preparations for this new body to take over from the old Sharnbrook Evangelical Church charity (Registered number 1145375) were progressed during 2018/2019, and a planned formal handover took place on 31st March 2019.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES: The object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, to promote the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of faith, primarily but not exclusively within Sharnbrook and the surrounding neighbourhood.

ACTIVITIES: The church organised many activities during the year in support of its objects. These included Sunday worship, midweek House Groups during the daytime and evening, monthly Prayer Meetings and children and youth work.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE Year 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

A summary of the main achievements is set out below:

We hold regular Sunday meetings in the Science Centre at Sharnbrook Academy. These meetings are recorded and later uploaded to YouTube. We meet in people's homes for House Groups, Prayer meetings, while regular Pastor on line emails were sent out to keep people encouraged and give access to online resources. Regular pastoral visiting continued and vulnerable members were supported where necessary. Regular phone calls were made by elders and their wives in support of others.

We were able to serve the local Primary School, through online assemblies and taking Christmas and Easter RE lessons for each year group. The church runs a programme for children and young people aged 3 to 16+ which are open to all, overseen by our Youth and Children's worker, Samantha. She oversees our work with young people, which includes Sunday School with different age groups from crèche upwards. JC's Club is an after-school club of games, craft, activities and Bible Teaching every Monday, after school in term time. This is for children in years 1-4 and held at the local lower school, Sharnbrook Primary. Uncover is a teenage group, helping young people to look at the Bible and discuss contemporary issues that they face, this is held in the minister's home. Dad and Me is a group which support local dads to spend time with their children on a Saturday morning. Volunteers from the church help to open up the school for this group every month in conjunction with a local charity FACES (Family and Children's Early-help Services). There is no similar provision in the area.

All of these groups are open to all and operate under the church's Child Protection Policy, and all those working with young people are required to apply for a Disclosure Statement through the Criminal Records Bureau and this is overseen by the church Child Protection Officer. We also have undertaken child protection training for our volunteers.

Many in the church ensure that older people, especially those living on their own and those who are now unable to come out of their homes to regular meetings, receive regular visits, especially if they are unwell or in hospital. This includes times of bereavement and taking communion to those who are house bound. The church also provided meals for those in need at particular times throughout the year.

We are involved in supporting our local Bedford Foodbank. Other church members are involved in their local communities in various voluntary capacities, including working with a pregnancy crisis centre. We also provided Shoebox gifts for children. We were able to take part in the Sharnbrook Village Christmas Fayre, offering Christian literature and invitations to all in the community, in addition to raising funds to support The Stables, through cake sales.

Leadership

The church is led by Elders & Deacons, who are responsible for the spiritual oversight and overall direction of church life. During 2022-23 John Heron was employed by the church in a full-time capacity, and John is a member of the FIEC Pastors' Network.

Outreach is not limited to Bedford, and the church supports a range of missionary work in South East Asia and in 'Access Restricted Nations'. We receive news and pray regularly for a number of Christian workers including those working in the UK and Kosovo. Approximately

10% of gift income (and tax reclaimed) is given annually to support this work. In allocating this money we seek to support specific individuals or organisations with whom we have personal links, ideally with a local connection to Sharnbrook Evangelical Church. We favour long term commitments, and prefer to make a small number of gifts of relatively large value, in order that our giving makes a tangible difference to those we support.

Public Benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities Sharnbrook Evangelical Church should undertake. In fulfilling our charitable aims for the public benefit we have undertaken the following activities:

To advance the Christian Faith: Our regular Sunday Services, midweek House Groups and Monthly Prayer Meetings are open to all members of the public regardless of background and belief. These have been more widely accessed by those in the local community and further afield over the past year. Special Services such as our annual Remembrance Sunday or Carol Services continued.

The elders of the church are available to give counsel and support to any in need and, along with other volunteers are involved regularly in providing support to the sick and bereaved.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity received income for the year of £64,881 (2022: £63,964), all of which was unrestricted. Expenditure for the year was £69,344 (2022: £65,405). The receipts and payments account for the year showed a deficit of £4,463 (2022: deficit of £1,441). Total net assets of the charity amounted to £24,878 (2022: £29,341) which was all held as cash or bank balances.

RESERVES

The Trustees consider that the level of reserves is appropriate. At the year end, the free reserves of the charity amounted to £24,878 (2022: £29,341).

All funds of the charity are unrestricted in nature. The charity has no designated or restricted funds.

Approved by the trustees for issue and signed on their behalf on 11th November 2023.

John Heron (Trustee and Elder) Brian Bennett (Trustee and Deacon)

SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Registered Charity No: 1179954

ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Receipts

	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
	2023		2022
	£		£
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>			
Planned giving	42,000		43,988
Collections & other giving	12,315		10,018
Income tax recovered	10,391	64,706	9,901
			63,907
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>			
Sundry income	-	-	-
<i>Income from charitable & ancillary trading</i>			
Bookstall	-		-
Less: expenses	-		-
Other sundry income	-	-	-
<i>Other incoming resources</i>			
Special gifts in	750		1,210
Special gifts out	(750)	-	(1,210)
<i>Income from investments</i>			
Bank interest		175	57
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 64,881		£63,964

Payments

	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
	2023		2022
	£		£
<i>Grants</i>			
Away giving	6,100		6,200
Other giving	-	6,100	0
			6,200
<i>Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</i>			
Employment & housing costs - minister	34,018		32,878
Employer's Pension costs - minister (see note on page 2)	11,943		11,112
Ministers expenses (books, telephone, travel etc.)	1,642		811
North Bedfordshire Youth Trust	7,900		8,050
Employment & housing costs - youth worker	-		-
Employer's Pension costs - youth worker	-		-
Youth worker's expenses	749		93
Hire of premises	2,724		2,250
Worship	-		-
Insurance	526		513
Sound & music	133		296
Visiting speakers	500		-
Books	-		-
Evangelism	567		100
Youth & childrens work	195		294
Pastoral	-		550
Sundry	131	61,028	258
			57,205
<i>Church management & administration</i>			
Printing, postage & stationery	655		852
Subscriptions	254		191
Advertising and publications	225		336
Sundry expenses	-		-
Independent Examination costs	456		-
Payroll service fees	466		466
Legal and professional fees	-		-
Sound and visual equipment purchase	160		-
Equipment hire & maintenance	-	2,216	155
			2,000
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 69,344		£ 65,405
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	(4,463)		(1,441)
CASH BROUGHT FORWARD	29,341		30,782
CASH CARRIED FORWARD	£ 24,878		£ 29,341

SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

Registered Charity No: 1179954

	General fund	Designated funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Monetary assets</i>				
Bank current account	2,117	-	2,117	2,755
Deposit account	22,724	-	22,724	26,549
Petty cash	37		37	37
	24,878	-	24,878	29,341
<i>Adjustments:</i>				
Short term loan to designated funds	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS	£ 24,878	£ -	£ 24,878	£29,341
 Represented by:				
GENERAL FUND	24,878	-	24,878	29,341
DESIGNATED FUNDS	-	-	-	-
	£ 24,878	£ -	£ 24,878	£29,341

NOTE FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

Pension Costs

Pension Costs in the year to 31 March 2023 include £6,226 (2022: £5,582) being payments towards making good a deficit on a pension scheme of which the charity is a former member. These payments are a mandatory requirement, and are part of the Pension Trust's plans for clearing the deficit and will continue for the foreseeable future. As at 30 September 2022 (the latest available valuation) the potential liability to make further contributions was considered to be £91,313.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on
and signed on their behalf by:

B BENNETT

S D FRESHWATER

SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1179954)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 1 to 2.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Louise Tunley FCA CTA DChA
Chartered Accountant

19 Goldington Road
Bedford
MK40 3JY

Date: